

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
CAB-02 COME-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 FAA-00 /089 W
-----042215 140452Z /15

R 131620Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7877
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USNMR SHAPE BEL
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER
USMISSION USNATO
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 1494

BRUSSELS FOR USEEC
USCINCEUR FOR POLAD
USDOCOSOUTH FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNSC, CY
SUBJECT: DISCUSSIONS ON REOPENING NICOSIA AIRPORT

REF: NICOSIA 1325 (230531Z MAY 78)

BEGIN SUMMARY. TFSC "PRIMIN" OREK'S PRESS RELEASE
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OF JUNE 12 DENIED UN EXCLUSIVE ADMINISTRATION
OF NICOSIA AIRPORT. 'CHARGE' TALKED WITH OREK
AND D/SRSG GORGE JUNE 13 ABOUT NICOSIA REOPENING.
OREK BACKED DOWN SOMEWHAT ON QUESTION OF UN
CONTROL. NEITHER EMBASSY NOR GORGE BELIEVED
OREK'S PRESS STATEMENT TO BE FORMAL TFSC
RESPONSE TO UNFICYP PROPOSAL. END SUMMARY

1. TFSC "PRIMIN" OREK'S PRESS OFFICE RELEASED STATEMENT JUNE 12 CONCERNING PROPOSED REOPENING OF NICOSIA AIRPORT UNDER UN ADMINISTRATION. THE STATEMENT SAID INTER ALIA THAT "EVEN IF UN PLANES USE THE AIRPORT, A SYSTEM BASED ON THE EQUALITY OF THE TWO COMMUNITIES MUST BE IMPLEMENTED IN CONNECTION WITH ADMINISTRATION OF THE AIRFIELD, CONTROL TOWER AND FLIGHT SECURITY. THE AIRFIELD CANNOT BE LEFT ENTIRELY UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE UN, OR THROUGH THE UN, UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE GREEK CYPRIOTS." THE STATEMENT ALSO RECALLED OREK'S JUNE 9 REMARK THAT THE AIRPORT CANNOT BECOME A UN BASE, I.E. IT COULD ONLY BE USED BY UN FOR OPERATIONS WITHIN CYPRUS.

2. CHARGE' DISCUSSED QUESTION OF NICOSIA AIRPORT REOPENING WITH OREK JUNE 13. OREK CHARACTERIZED THE RELEASE AS E PRESS STATEMENT RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS BEING ASKED IN HIS COMMUNITY. HE EXPLAINED THAT PRESS STATEMENT DID NOT EXCLUDE FORMULATION (AS EARLIER PROPOSED BY UN SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE GALINDO-POHL AND HIS DEPUTY, REMY GORGE) OF "LIAISON OFFICERS" FROM BOTH CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES; HOWEVER SINCE THERE

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WAS NO DIRECT EQUIVALENT OF "LIAISON OFFICER" IN TURKISH, SOME OTHER FORMULATION SHOULD BE USED IN THE TURKISH, (SUCH AS "REPRESENTATIVE," (TEMSILCI) ALTHOUGH THE UN COULD IDENTIFY THE COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES AS LIAISON OFFICERS.

3. CHARGE' SUBSEQUENTLY MET WITH GORGE WHO CHARACTERIZED THE OREK STATEMENT AS UNHELPFUL. GORGE SAID THAT TURKISH AMBASSADOR ONHON HAD BEEN "IRRITATED" BY THE OREK STATEMENT AND GORGE NOTED THAT OREK WAS TO SEE ONHON LATER JUNE 13 ON THIS ISSUE. CHARGE' RECOUNTED HIS CONVERSATION WITH OREK, BUT GORGE FOUND OREK'S ARGUMENTS UNSATISFACTORY: UN WOULD ON OCCASION NEED NICOSIA AIRPORT FOR OPERATIONS PRIMARILY CYPRUS-ORIENTED, BUT NOT RESTRICTED TO CYPRUS; "LIAISON OFFICER" WAS CAREFULLY CHOSEN FORMULATION AND USE OF SOME OTHER TERM MIGHT REOPEN OLD DIFFICULTIES CONCERNING AIRPORT ADMINISTRATION. FINALLY MOST DIFFICULT PROBLEM SO FAR CONTINUED TO BE HANDLING OF SEPARATE GREEK AND TURKISH CYPRIOT FLIGHT INFORMATION

REGIONS (A PROBLEM GLOSSED OVER AS "TECHNICAL"
BY OREK IN TALKING TO CHARGE).

4. COMMENT. BASED ON OUR CONVERSATIONS WITH
OREK, WHO HEDGED SOMEWHAT ON HIS EARLIER PRESS
REPORT, ON ONHON'S REPORTED DISPLEASURE WITH THE
PRESS RELEASE, AND ON GORGE'S OTHER COMMENTS,
IT IS OUR BELIEF THAT OREK STATEMENT DOES NOT
REPRESENT FINAL GOT/TFSC POSTION AND SHOULD NOT
BE CONSTRUED AS THE "OFFICIAL RESPONSE" TO UNFICYP
PROPOSAL. SRSG CONTINUES TO AWAIT TURKISH
CYPRIOT RESPONSE BEFORE MAKING A FORMAL PROPOSAL
TO GOC. END COMMENT.

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 13 jun 1978
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